

CAPITAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The Attorney-General's Department. His Recommendations—The Court of Appeals. The Immense Amount of Work It has Done Within the Past Year—The Land Forfeiture Cases—The Railroad Companies. Suits Against Them—In the Adjutant-General's Office—Status of Our Militia Force—Recommendations for Its More Efficient Utilization.

No. 2.

Correspondence of the Herald.

Austin, April 19th, 1882.—The Attorney-General, in his recent report to the governor, calls attention again to the recommendations which he made last season for the more efficient enforcement of the penal laws of the state. Among those are prominently: first, the enactment of a law presuming the correctness of all proceedings in the trial courts, unless the contrary appear by bill of exceptions, so that cases may be promptly tried on their merits. Second, that provision be at once made for the payment by the state of reasonable fees to justices of the peace and other officers for services rendered in preliminary examinations for felonies. Third, that the state should have a reasonable number of peremptory challenges on the formation of every grand jury. Fourth, that one and the same "special venire" should be considered amply sufficient for all the capital cases called for trial at any one term of court. Fifth, that there should be appointed a clerk for each grand jury, whose duty it should be to reduce to writing, in a book kept for the purpose, the evidence of each witness testifying before the grand jury, this evidence to be signed by the witnesses, and entrusted to the care of the district or county attorney.

IN THE COURT OF APPEALS.

during the year past there were taken cases of felonies, 271; of misdemeanors, 155; of civil cases, 30. And of these Tyler represents 153; Galveston, 94; Austin, 216. The business done within the same time was as follows: Cases affirmed, 215; reversed, 125; dismissed, 63; transferred or pending, 64. It also affirmed the death penalty in 7 cases.

LAND FORFEITURE CASES.

there have been convicted down to the 1st of January 1882, and actually placed inside the walls of the penitentiary, 15 of this class of offenders. In the jail in this city there are now two other criminals therein who have been convicted and sentenced, though their cases are now on appeal; these are Rogers and Hanks. The total number of these fellows indicted is 53. Of the number indicted, 8 have forfeited their bonds and are at large; 2 died pending their prosecutions; 3 have been acquitted; 5 have never been arrested; 3 are now at large on bond; the remaining 12 have had their cases dismissed, 7 of these men being used as witnesses, and the others being without sufficient evidence against them to warrant prosecution.

IN THE MATTER OF.

the attorney-general says that during the last year, he attached his certificate of approval to 25 in all; and that there now appears to be some 27 railroad companies in the state. He further says that as many as 10 of these had failed to make the reports required by law under the statute 424, under the \$1,000 forfeiture clause, and he thinks that a special department of state government should be required to transact the business with them, and that the supervision of such immense interests should not be scattered through the different departments, with no special resulting responsibility.

THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Your readers will recollect that some time last July, Hon. W. H. King was appointed to this post as successor to the lamented General John B. Jones. He has taken hold of affairs with that diligence and conscientiousness that characterizes the man, and makes some valuable recommendations as to the needs of the service through legislation. The latter shows commander-in-chief, 1. Adjutant-general, 1; aids, 6; brigades, 2; infantry regiments, 3; of these one being colored; cavalry regiment, 1; artillery, 1; white infantry companies, 2; colored infantry companies, 6.

In the matter of appropriations and expenditures, General King shows \$7,118 as having been drawn from last year's appropriation, and says that about \$15,000 more will be required to pay for services of battalion for quarter ending 1st of March, ultimo. The following are some of General King's

RECOMMENDATIONS.

To secure anything like an efficient system: Authorize and require an enrollment of the entire militia once every two years; confine the active militia, or volunteer guards, to a definite number of companies and regiments—in infantry, cavalry and artillery all being represented—and unite them all in one division, composed of not more than four nor less than two brigades, with one major-general for the entire state, and one brigadier-general for each brigade, and such staff for each as may be necessary for an active, intelligent performance of their duties.

Require proper penalties for failure, at least of some kind, to make each division; said enrollment to continue not less than three nor more than five days, and the entire force, while going to and returning from, and during their stay in said enrollment, to be subject to strict discipline, and to be fairly and fully drilled and exercised in the various duties pertaining to a soldier's life, both in camp and field.

Require colonels of regiments, and captains of companies, to make careful inspections of their commands quarterly, at least; and that all those officers, general field and company, report to the adjutant-general the results of these several duties, as well as all others connected with their military service. Modify the present law so that military companies cannot be called out by subordinate officials, but, through them, by the governor; and when so done provide the means to pay for their services, lessening the present rates, however, in no doing.

Appropriate sufficient, yearly, to pay the expense of these encampments, for the rent of places for the safe keeping of arms, etc., and for the actual expense and reasonable pay—not to exceed so many days in each year—for the general and field officers while attending to their duties as inspectors, and also the expenses of the adjutant-general when on that duty, as he is now by law invested with the duty of inspector-general, and others, as already stated.

The legislature now in session will aid this department to the best of its powers.

J. F. E.

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LANCASTER.

Correspondence of the Herald.

Lancaster, Texas, April 20th, 1882.—Mrs. Lou F. White, for more than twenty years the faithful and devoted wife of the late W. L. White, has recently had erected over the grave of her husband a tasteful and elegant monument of marble at a cost of \$650. The marble from its high polish is evidently of the finest Italian, and the architecture seems to be partly Corinthian and partly Gothic, and presents both in execution and design a chef d'œuvre of successful art. Mr. White possessed a high order of executive and administrative abilities, and as a business man was eminently successful in all his undertakings. He bore the reputation of being just and upright in all his dealings, and during a life of active and unwearied usefulness, enjoyed the esteem and confidence of the entire community in which he lived.

He was peculiarly blessed in all of his domestic relations, and the nobler and higher qualities of his nature found their fullest expression in the bosom of the sacred family circle, where he was ever known as the most devoted of husbands, the tenderest of fathers, and the truest and most faithful of friends and benefactors.

Like the precious oil of spikenard which the holy woman of scriptures poured upon the feet of our Savior, so will the beautiful monument erected to the memory of the late W. L. White remain a perpetual memorial of that spirit of devotion which is the peculiar characteristic and crowning glory of every true and noble woman.

In the afternoon of last Sunday a large concourse of people assembled at the Waxahachie crossing near the town, on Ten Mile Creek, to witness the baptism of Mr. George Hollaway, a young man residing in this community, and a recent convert to the Christian religion as expounded by the Baptists.

The Rev. A. M. Averill was the officiating clergyman, and the ceremony was dignified, solemn and impressive.

There will be a grand Sunday school picnic gathering, in one of the beautiful groves adjacent to this place on the first day of May.

Mr. W. K. Grove, an old and honored citizen of this precinct, and a resident of Lancaster, and Captain Williamson, of Lisbon, have both indicated their purpose to become candidates for the office of county treasurer.

The weather is charming and the farmers are busy at work.

FOR CATTLE AND GRUBS.

In my miles and horses I give Simmons Liver Regulator. I have not lost one that I gave it to.

E. T. TAYLOR.

Ag't. for Grangers of Ga.

McKINNEY.

Correspondence of the Herald.

McKINNEY, April 20.—The weather is fine and crops of all kinds are good.

The Golden troupe are playing here to crowded houses and will remain all week.

Our new city marshal, Oats, is crowding things through, and we are glad to note that many old sidewalks are being repaired and we hope in a short time the new board and marble will have our streets in tip-top order.

We have a Bee association here. The officers are mostly experienced bee men. The president came in yesterday to give his experience. He had just taken a swarm. He had to leave his hands outside. The secretary also called in. He had such a head on him he had to be introduced to his neighbors. If any one doubts the warm end of a bee these gentlemen will make good witnesses.

We learn that County Attorney Muse will resign his office at the next meeting of the commissioners court. There will be a number of applicants for the office. We learn some of the applicants have already been called on by the commissioners that live in the country. All the candidates are clever men and able attorneys.

The L. O. P. of Empire lodge will accept the invitation to the celebration on the 24th at Sherman. Many other lodges will attend. Mr. Quinlan has been requested to send a special train from Dallas to reach Sherman at 8 o'clock a. m. As Mr. Quinlan has always been so very obliging we feel sure this courtesy will be extended.

McKINNEY, April 21.—The Golden are playing full houses here still at McKinney and will give a matinee on Saturday evening.

We look for the East line railroad by the 10th.

Prospects for rain are fine, which is much needed.

Mr. Quinlan has agreed to furnish a special train next Wednesday, 24th, for the L. O. P. celebration at Sherman. Four cars will scarcely hold the crowd from Col. county. We like to visit our neighbors, and many of our people will remember Mr. Quinlan for being so kind as to furnish a train at excursion rates to accommodate those in search of pleasure.

Our bee men are much improved and one would scarcely know they had been in the swarming business if they did not give in their experience.

There is much complaint about the worms cutting the wheat. We hope the farmers are worse scared than hurt.

Do you wish your muscular system strengthened? Do you need a stimulant that is kind and friendly to the brain? Do you desire good flesh and healthy blood? Then use Brown's Iron Bitters. It will suit your case exactly.

Conkling Getting Old.

Roscoe Conkling is growing old very fast. I saw him on the street the other day, and he looked five years older than he did a year ago. There has been a change in his manner. It is much more severe than formerly, and a touch of bitterness and disappointment has been added to the cynicism that has always been one of his characteristics. He evidently attempts to conceal the disappointment he feels in being so inconsiderately thrust into the cold, but it is manifest in his face and in his eyes. As everybody knows, he is not entirely out of politics yet. He has his chosen few who adhere to him in hope that the greatness which they claim for him will be by and by and assert itself. If he could not control and direct these forces in a quiet way, he would grow old much faster than he is. There are some here who think that he is somewhat of a lawyer, and one who is content with his affairs says that the freedom of his professional life is not disagreeable to him. But anyone who knows him and knows that he liked his old position of head man in the political arena better.—[N. Y. Correspondence Washington Star.]

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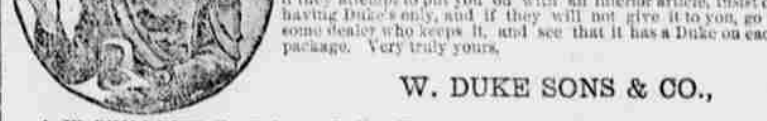
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